

((FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF SVYATOSLAV KOZLOV COMMENTARY FROM THE ENGLISH-LANGUAGE PUBLICATION "SOVIET WEEKLY" FOR TWENTYEIGHT 28 AUGUST 1971))

((TEXT)) SALT TALKS: SLOW PROGRESS--NOT PROGRESS!

THE SALT TALKS CONTINUE--BACK, NOW, IN HELSINKI WHERE THEY BEGAN. THE NOVOSTI MILITARY COMMENTATOR, SVYATOSLAV KOZLOV, WRITES: AT THEIR LAST MEETINGS, IN VIENNA, THE USSR AND THE USA AGREED TO CONCENTRATE THEIR EFFORTS ON CURBING THE DEPLOYMENT OF ANTI-MISSILE DEFENSE SYSTEMS.

PRELIMINARY CLARIFICATION OF POSITIONS HAS BEEN COMPLETED AND MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE MINIMUM CONDITIONS ARE KNOWN.

ALL THIS IS JUST ONE SMALL ASPECT OF THE GENERAL QUESTION OF LIMITING STRATEGIC ARMS - BUT IT IS ONE ON WHICH IT SEEMS POSSIBLE TO REACH AN EARLY AGREEMENT.

THE TWO SIDES ARE TACKLING THE COMPLICATED PROBLEM IN STAGES. THIS METHOD HAS ALREADY PROVED ITS WORTH IN OTHER ASPECTS OF DISARMAMENT: THE NUCLEAR TEST BAN, FOR INSTANCE, AND THE NUCLEAR-FREE SEABED TREATY.

A DRAFT TREATY BANNING BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS HAS NOW BEEN PRESENTED FOR ENDORSEMENT BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, WHILE DISCUSSION ON THE PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WARFARE CONTINUES - ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF AGREEMENT BY STAGES.

CERTAINLY, ALL DISARMAMENT QUESTIONS ARE LINKED. BUT IT IS CLEAR THAT SOLUTION OF ONE PROBLEM SHOULD NOT BE MADE DEPENDENT ON OTHERS.

WASHINGTON HAS MANY TIMES DECLARED ITS DESIRE TO SEE THE SALT TALKS SUCCEED.

BUT INFLUENTIAL CIRCLES ACT - OPENLY AND OTHERWISE - CONTRARY TO THE AIMS, SPIRIT AND THE BUDDING RESULTS OF THE TALKS IN VIENNA AND HELSINKI.

THEY BACK THE CONTINUED ARMS DRIVE, IN AN ATTEMPT TO SECURE UNILATERAL ADVANTAGES FOR THE USA.

UNABLE TO HALT THE TALKS, THEY URGE THAT THEY BE CONDUCTED ONLY "FROM STRENGTH" - FORGETTING THAT THE USA TODAY CANNOT IN PRACTICE ACHIEVE ANY LONG-TERM ADVANTAGES BY MILITARY MEANS.

WITH THE PRESENT LEVEL OF INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE SOVIET UNION AND OTHER SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, THE AMERICANS CANNOT POSSIBLY MAKE A LEAP FORWARD WHICH WOULD PLACE THEM BEYOND REACH.

THEY HAVE NO HOPE OF EVER BEING ABLE TO DICTATE THEIR WILL TO OTHERS FROM POSITIONS OF SUPREMACY.

IT IS ALSO QUITE CLEAR THAT THE CONTINUED ARMS DRIVE DEVALUES EVEN NULLIFIES - INDIVIDUAL ARMS LIMITATION AGREEMENTS, FOR THESE AGREEMENTS ALWAYS LAG BEHIND THE GROWING LEVEL OF ARMAMENTS.

NATURALLY, A MAIN CONDITION FOR ANY DISARMAMENT MUST BE EQUAL SECURITY FOR ALL STATES, WITH NO ONE GETTING UNILATERAL MILITARY ADVANTAGES.

THE SOVIET UNION IS PREPARED TO CONCLUDE SUCH JUST AND USEFUL AGREEMENTS.

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